



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION VII

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DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2405

000007119

Ref: 80EA

February 12, 1990

Mr. Robert M. Nelson, Jr.  
Area Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats  
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Mr. B. Phillip Warner  
General Manager  
EG & G, Rocky Flats Plant  
P. O. Box 464  
Golden, CO 80402-0464

Gentlemen:

Enclosed are joint comments from the Colorado Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency on the Draft Rocky Flats Community Survey Plan submitted by DOE 1/19/90 under the schedules of the draft Interagency Agreement. Mike McHugh of CDH and Sonya Pennock, Community Involvement Coordinator for EPA, have met with EG & G's Terry Smith to outline the enclosed comments and will be happy to discuss them further. The enclosed comments are to be incorporated into the Final Community Survey Plan which is due March 22, 1990.

If you have questions, please call Sonya at 294-1115 or Mike at 331-4845.

*David C. Shelton*

David C. Shelton, Director  
CDH Hazardous Materials &  
Solid Waste Management Div.

Sincerely,

*Robert L. Dupree*

Robert L. Dupree, Director  
EPA Hazardous Waste Management Div.

Enclosure

ADMIN RECORD

cc. David C. Shelton, CDH  
Patricia Corbetta, CDH  
Nat Miullo, EPA  
Sonya Pennock, EPA  
Pat Etchart, DOE  
Terry Smith EG & G  
Joe Temple, Rocky Flats Cleanup Commission  
Howard Brown, Rocky Flats Env. Monitoring Council

[REDACTED]

JOINT EPA/CDH COMMENTS  
DRAFT ROCKY FLATS COMMUNITY SURVEY PLAN  
FEBRUARY 7, 1990

The draft Community Survey Plan represents good initial effort at establishing a framework for conducting community interviews. However, the proposed Survey Plan does not comply in every respect with EPA guidance for community interviews. EPA and CDH require the following changes in the draft plan:

1. Page 1, II Objectives of the Community Interviews

The final "bullet" needs clarification. What DOE wants to find out is whether the scope of the community relations plan should include community involvement opportunities related to environmental actions/issues in addition to those associated with the cleanup.

2. Page 2, IV Interview Format

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Include language indicating that EPA and CDH community involvement staff will oversee DOE community involvement activities and will accompany Rocky Flats personnel on some interviews and that DOE will provide EPA and CDH with interview schedules at least every two weeks.

Include language that interviews will be conducted in such a way as to assure confidentiality to the interviewee to the fullest extent of the law. Page A-6 of Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook reads as follows:

Assure interviewees that their statements will remain confidential:

"At the beginning of each interview.....explain that the information will be used to understand community concerns and that a record of the contact will be made, but the agency will not attribute any specific statements or information to any individual without his or her permission. Ask interviewees if they would like their names, addresses, and phone numbers on the contact list, which is appended to the CRP" (but not identified as interviewees).

Also, EPA and CDH are concerned that interviewees may mistakenly believe that the questions asked in the community interviews are related to the recent law suit filed by area residents and plant workers. The interviewer should make it clear that this is not the purpose of the interview.

3. Page 2, IV Interview Format: Be sure that the personnel conducting the interview are appropriate for the individual being interviewed, (i.e., a high level manager should not interview an average citizen). Be careful not to intimidate those being interviewed.

4. Suggested changes in proposed interviewees:

State Representatives

Eliminate one Boulder legislator and replace with:

State Senator Sally Hopper

State Representatives Jim Pearson and Carol Taylor-Little

Reporters (Print)

Eliminate Tom Graf, Denver Post, from first round.

Broadcast Media

Eliminate Tim Smile, KOA Radio and Mark Williams, Channel 9.

Business

Eliminate Adolph Coors Company and add:

a representative of small business in the area  
realtor who sells property in the area

Education

Add an educator or PTO officer from a school near the plant.

Add the category "Residents".

Check with local homeowner associations, Rocky Flats Environmental Monitoring Council, Glenna Smith (CUES), EPA and CDH to compile a list of at least five local residents who are unaffiliated with any group but represent a cross section of those living near the plant.

Add the category "Medical Professionals".

4. Attachment 2: Interview Questions. Add questions like the following:

What do you know about Rocky Flats?

Why are you concerned about Rocky Flats? (As follow-up to question on concerns.)

What agencies or groups do you believe are credible sources of information on Rocky Flats?

What do you think about the credibility of CDH?, EPA? EG & G? DOE? - government in general?

What can we do to improve our credibility?

Have you been involved in Rocky Flats-related activities in the past?

How do you want to be involved in future Rocky Flats cleanup activities?

How often would you like to have information on cleanup activities at Rocky Flats? (As follow-up to the question on the types of information the person wants--print, meetings, etc.?).

Have you contacted any government officials or plant officials about the site? Were they responsive to your concerns?

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